



Crop Progress and Condition

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Agricultural News: Days suitable for fieldwork were 6.6. Field activities for the week included planting barley and wheat, and harvesting cotton, soybeans, and peanuts. Due to the recent frost, a quantity of tobacco was lost. Some farmers are purchasing seed and making plans for 2016. Weather conditions were sunny and dry; average temperatures went down a little this week and there was zero precipitation. High temperatures were in the upper 70s to 80s, and lows were in the upper 20s to 30s.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 10/25/15

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	1	17	74	8
Subsoil	1	12	81	7

- Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 10/25/15

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Barley	-	-	12	76	12
Cotton	-	-	38	60	2
Hay, Alfalfa	-	5	34	57	4
Hay, Other	1	12	35	49	3
Peanuts	-	-	40	58	2
Soybeans	4	14	33	46	3
Pasture	1	14	37	42	6
Livestock	1	5	22	58	14

-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 10/25/15

Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Barley planted	64	53	75	83
Corn for grain harvested	90	82	80	89
Cotton harvested	36	17	21	43
Peanuts harvested	55	35	68	57

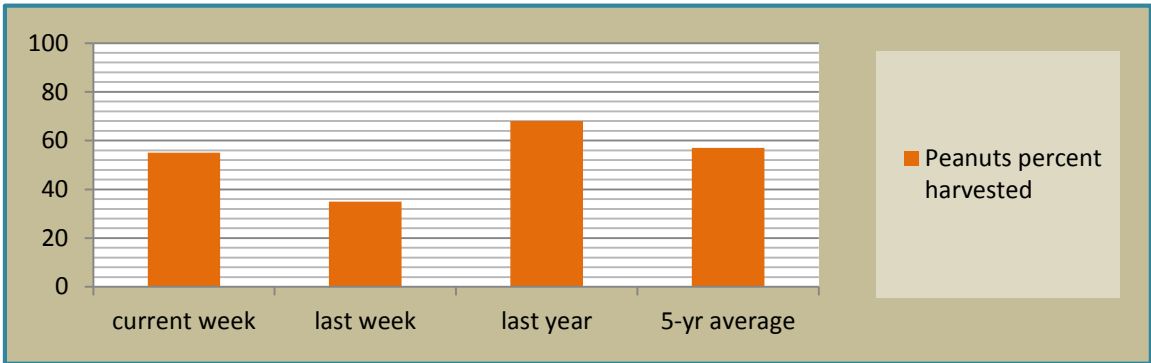
- Represents data not available.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 10/25/15

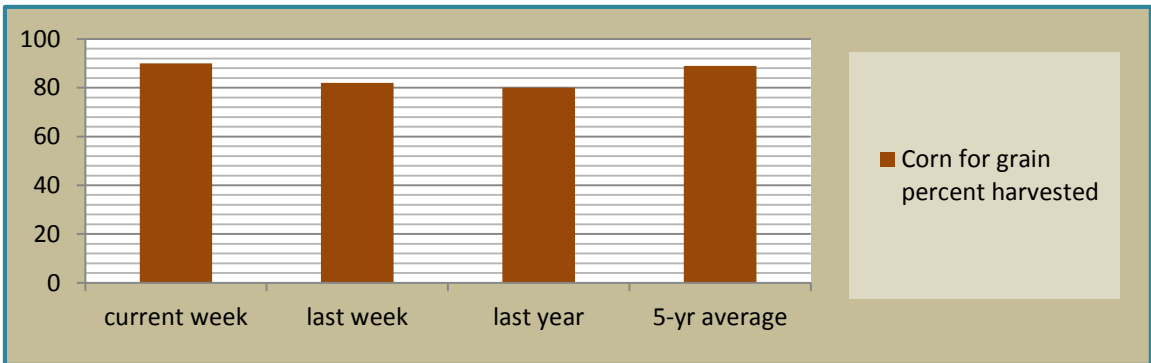
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Soybeans dropping leaves	90	82	92	91
Soybeans harvested	33	21	31	28
Winter wheat planted	40	24	34	39

- Represents data not available.

PEANUTS HARVESTED for week ending 10/25/15



CORN FOR GRAIN HARVESTED for week ending 10/25/15



Weather Summary- For the week ending October 25, 2015

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Oct. 24	Mar. 1 to Oct. 24 norm	Last Week	Since Sept. 1	Sept. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	68	40	77	27	54	-1	3997	3798	0.00	9.54	2.97	34.28	-1.80
Norfolk	67	47	79	38	57	-3	4780	4256	0.00	8.24	1.49	41.36	2.35
Richmond	68	40	79	33	54	-3	4623	4122	0.00	5.88	-0.95	38.58	1.49
Roanoke	70	42	81	29	56	1	4205	NA	0.00	11.53	5.23	42.94	7.16
Wash/Dulles	67	36	80	27	52	-2	4026	NA	0.00	4.14	-2.32	31.44	-3.10

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. NA-Not available. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY – Comments are based on remarks made by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas A Stanley)

Another dry week with warm temperatures has begun to deplete top soil moisture. Corn grain moisture levels have been running around 20% or higher and those with drying capacity have been shelling corn. High moisture corn grain for the silo has also been harvested this week.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Laura Siegle)

Conditions were dry and sunny this week. Some more producers were out cutting beans this week.

CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)

Things are going along good and ahead of schedule due to the lack of rainfall. The soil in some areas is starting to dry out, but rainfall is in the future and soybeans are cured down for harvest.

CHESTERFIELD (Charlotte Maxwell)

None of the soybeans as of Friday 10/23, have been harvested, but the majority of them are dropping leaves.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Another open week of weather allowed farmers to continue to harvest soybeans and plant wheat. Soybean yields continue to be quite variable and some quality issues have been reported.

GLOUCESTER (David Moore)

Conditions are good for soybean harvest. Yields are about average or slightly less. Quality is down. Wheat planting is underway, but acres are down due to projected prices. Some haymaking continues. Late season veggie harvest continues. Folks are making some seed purchases and production decisions for 2016. Soil sampling and liming are underway.

SOUTHERN

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

We lost a fair amount of tobacco to frost last week, putting an end to tobacco and switching gears into soybean harvest. The Group IVs and early Group V full season soybeans really took a hit with all of the rain with many sprouting in the pods and the overall poor quality. Many of the later double crop beans are not going to yield as the plants hit wrong with the drought period and failed to get any size on them. The milo quality is not looking the greatest either, but we will know more when that harvest begins after beans are finished. Pastures and hay land are holding on. A little rain could be useful. Folks are mowing where needed and sneaking in the last little bit of hay cutting.

SOUTHEASTERN

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence Jr.)

Dry, sunny days allowed a good week for picking soybeans and planting wheat. Yields of soybeans are varied, depending on the maturity and weather during pod fill. More weeds are present this year due to weather challenges and resistance. Farmers are making plans to re-boot their weed control strategies for next year. Now there are ideal conditions for planting wheat.

GREENSVILLE (Nichole Norton)

Monday there was frost.

SUSSEX (Kevin Wells)

Good weather to continue with the harvest season. Small grains planting is underway and soybean and grain sorghum harvest has picked up steam. There is concern over grain sprouting in the field due to too much rainfall, and this will affect price.